

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of preventing allograft rejection in a transplant recipient comprising the step of administering to the recipient an antigenic preparation presenting antigens characteristic of the allograft in an amount effective to neutralize the immune response to the allograft.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the antigenic preparation comprises donor tissue.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein from 10^{-8} to 10^3 grams of antigenic material per dose is administered.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein from 10^{-4} to 10^{-1} grams of antigenic material per dose is administered.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the antigenic preparation is administered by means selected from the group consisting of intravenous injection, intramuscular injection, subcutaneous injection, sublingual administration and oral administration.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the antigenic preparation is administered during the transplantation event.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the antigenic preparation is administered within an hour prior to the transplantation event.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the antigenic preparation is administered after the transplantation event.

9. The method of claim 1 which is performed in combination with administration of additional immunosuppressive therapy.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the allograft is a skin graft.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the allograft is of pancreatic beta-cells.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the allograft is a transfusion of blood or serum.